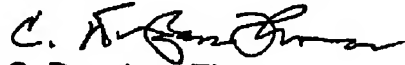


**PATENT**

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-24 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer, and claims 25-47 have been added to the application. Claims 25-47 remain pending. Please enter this Preliminary Amendment prior to examination on the merits.

Respectfully submitted,



C. Douglass Thomas  
Reg. No. 32,947

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